## In our music dept. 121/2c. for these popular

My Girl from Dixie. You Needn't Say the Kisses Came From Me. Amerita Waltzes.

Ma Black Pearl. My Drowsy Babe. If I Don't Change My Mind. He's Laid on the Shelf.

# Hechts' story of Saturday's selling is most interesting.

It is a story of saving from beginning to end-a story of bargain offering. It relates the doings of the past two weeks of the corps of buyers who have tried their best to secure seasonable merchandise to sell at less than usual prices. Read it and profit by it—and if you have not the ready money to enable you to avail yourself of the many money-saving chances, then have the amount of your purchase "charged" and arrange to pay weekly or monthly.

7c. for violet almond meal; 12c. every-

Sc. for pint battle witch bazel.

Toilet

requisites.

ee. for bottle Dentola tooth wash.

Sc. for 4-row bristle tooth brushes.

### Our foremost suit & skirt sale.

It sounds incredible, and because you have been deceived by others you will be loath to accept the statement as the truth, but it is nevertheless a fact that we are selling women's tailor-made suits and skirts at close to wholesale cost, and it is because they are the samples of a leading maker which he was pleased to close out even at a loss.

## At \$12.50 == suits worth up to \$30.

In this lot are to be found black and Oxford cheviots and homespuns, with silk-lined jackets and faced with peau de soie, with velvet collars and in coat and Eton effects and trimmed with taffeta silk; with skirts having wide flounces or full flaring. Then there are Venetians in every stylish shade and black, in tight-fitting Eton and coat effects, faced with peau de sole and trimmed with gilt braid and with full flaring skirts, and Venetians in all shades, with corded silk vests, some appliqued with gilt braid and white broadcloth and some only trimmed with gilt braid. This also is an enormous lot of suits, which, at \$12.50, are wonderfully cheap, being values up to \$30.

#### Gigantic sale of hats.

Ladies' misses' and children's untrimmed shapes and ready-towear hats-the samples of a hat maker-of hats which we have here in our regular stock at more than double what we are asking, embracing Tuscan straws in flats, dress shapes and turbans-stitched taffeta and straw shapes and also a great assortment of ladies'. misses' and children's ready-to-wear hats of fine Jap. braid, chip straw and Milan straw, in all colors and black and white

29c. for some worth up to \$1.25. 49c. for some worth up to \$1.50. 79c. for some worth up to \$2.00. 98c. for some worth up to \$3.00.

#### Trimmed hats, \$5.

Special lot of trimmed hats for ladies and misses-in combinations of straw and chiffon, trimmed with velvet ribbons and flowers -all \$7 and \$8 values-for \$5.

#### Trimmed hats, \$2.95.

Another lot of ladies' and children's trimmed hats-all \$5 and \$6 values-to go for \$2.95.

#### 12c. for flowers up to 39c. 19c. for flowers up to 69c.

-handsome roses with foliage, foliage bunches of the crushed roses, bunches of 9 silk poppies, wild flowers, with grasses and other desirable flowers.

#### Child's reefers, \$1.49.

Children's pique reefers, in dainty styles, embroidery trimmed, in pink, blue and white, sizes I to 3 years, \$1.49.

#### White waists, 98c.

Ten styles of white lawn and India linon waists, trimmed with tucks and embroidery, some hemstitched, others lace trimmed, all sizes, 98c.

\$2.49 for \$4 skirts. Stylish black cheviot serge skirts, both plain and trimmed, and brown and gray homespun skirts, some of which have flounces—all \$4 values—tomorrow for \$2.49.

\$3.49 for \$5 skirts. Handsome black Sicilian skirts-rich, lustrous quality-perfect black and full flaring. which, as you know, every store sells at \$5, are offered you at \$3.49.

#### 2½c. for 10c. embroideries and insertings.

An extraordinary offer in torchon laces and insertings to match. Never before have we put on sale such values in embroideries and insertings to match. Think of buying 8c. and 10c. values for 21/2c.—really less than cost. Intelligent buyers will be sure to accept this unprecedented opportunity.

A very pretty assortment of Arabian, butter and white bands in point Venice and imitations of the finest laces-sell always from

#### $12\frac{1}{2}$ c. up to 35c.

In this lot we are showing black silk point d'Esprit nets and some black silk La Tosca nets-both in plain and dotted effects. The kind that always sells for \$1.25

88c.

#### Banner' week in boys' clothing

Tomorrow winds up our biggest week in boys' clothing. But the enormous selling will not stop then. Just as long as these immense lots hold out you shall have them at these extraordinary

99c. for boys' \$3 blue flannel suits.

Boys' blue fiannel vestle suits, in two styles; a fine grade of fiannel which is never put in a suit under \$3; trimmed with braid and fiannel of another color, and some trimmed with black silk braid; pants have two hip pockets and patent waistbands; sizes 3 to 8 years; for the side with the side

\$1.29 for boys' \$3.00

suits. Lot of boys' doublebreasted cassimere suits, of which we unhesitatingly guarantee the wear; in sizes from 7 to 16 years, in a large assortment of check and mixed patterns; the same suits you've been used to buying at \$3, will be offered tomorrow at \$1.29 each. This offering is positively without parallel. for \$3.50 sailor

suits. Lot of boys' sailor blouse suits of blue flannel, which we guarantee all wool and fast in color, and which have deep sailor collars trimmed braid, and pleated sleeves: suits which every clothier sells for \$3.50-will be

for \$5 doublebreasted suits.

Another lot of boys' double-breasted suits, made of very desirable check and mixed cassimeres and fine blue serges, which are all wool and made up with the best Italian linings, stitched with silk, and with pockets faced with cloth, and with two Inside pockets, which are sold regularly for \$5, will be sold tomorrow at \$2.49.

#### \$3.98 for Russian blouse suits.

offered at \$1.49.

Lot of boys' Russian blouse suits—in all sizes from 2½ to 7—of light and navy blue, brown, gray, white and castor imported serge and fiannel and several of velvet, to sell at \$3.98, which are sold elsewhere up to \$8. Many of these have peau de soie silk detachable sailor collars—and all of them are elaborately silk embroidered and trimmed with gilt braid. Some have the standing and some the round collars, and all are finished with leather belts. \$3.98 doesn't cover the cost of material.

#### \$3.98 for coatie suits worth up to \$7.50.

Lot of the new coatie suits for boys from 4 to 12 years, made of fine imported cassimeres and cheviots. These are the very stylish suits, with single or double-breasted vests, and with round-cornered coats just like men's. These are samples of suits from which this maker took orders for suits to sell up to \$7.59, and at \$3.98 are very cheap.

## Considerable saving in shoes.

98c. for pair of ladies' vici kid, two-button Oxfords, with handsewed soles-a selection in either tan or black; the same shoe that was marked to sell at \$2.00.

\$1.25 for pair of ladies' patent leather or vici kid Oxfords-with heavy sole and extension edges; made in the very newest patterns and effects; the same shoe that will cost you \$2.00 in any shoe store in

\$1.39 for a lot of ladies' patent leather lace shoes, in some new and exclusive designs, and excellent value at \$2.50.

\$1.98 for pair of men's hand-sewed patent leather Oxfords; some very new and stylish toes, heavy heels, etc.; the kind that always brings \$3.50.

\$1.98 for pair of men's Russia calf lace shoes, in either tan or wine colored; Goodyear welt sewed; a very neat and serviceable shoe; made to sell regularly at \$3.50.

## 5c. for cake of Armour Venetian violet or

6c. a box for Balley's face powder. Sale men's suits.

\$7.75 for men's suits worth up to \$12.50. 11.50 for men's suits

worth up to \$17.50

Leon Wechsler's whole overproduction of spring suits-which he closed out to us at a loss by which you profit. The highest grade--the best ready-to-wear clothing possible to buy offered at a saving of about \$5 to \$6.50 on a suit. An unprecedented offering - and remarkable - because the season has scarcely begin.

Every garmen, guaranteed by Wechsler and

#### 2,000 neglige shirts near one-half.

Having the outlet large enough to handle them and being his very best customer, a shirtmaker in Philadelphia offers us his surplus stock of summer negliges for men at nearly half, and we accept them and hand them over to you just as we secured them.

Think of men's negliges offered at nearly half usual prices, and the neglige season hasn't yet began. Every shirt made for this

for immense lot of men's Bedford cord, woven madras and percale shirtshundreds of them-the greatest lot and the greatest values ever put before the men of this city. Values up to \$1.

#### 69c. for \$1.00 and \$1.25 silk shirts.

Every silk shirt owned by the "Eclipse" factory in Philadelphia is here--shirts which they make up to sell at \$1 and \$1.25, and which are to be seen in every man's store at those prices-are here as a consequence at 69c. and in an enormous assortment.

19°c. for men's 50c. underwear.

Absolutely less than it cost the maker of it to make—and every garment is perfect. Summer weight and in all sizes—an enormous quantity—otherwise we couldn't have gotten it to sell at 19c.

7 c. for men's 15c. hose.

here tomorrow for Saturday's bargain hunt ers. Black and tan-all sizes-all perfect

## Hecht & Company,

513-515 Seventh Street.

Weather Was Sufficiently Genial to Tempt People Outdoors.

Favorite Day for Whitechapel Residents to Marry.

FOREIGN NEWS AND GOSSIP

Special Correspondence of The Evening Star. LONDON, April 10, 1901. We have had our Easter in genial weather, if not in bright sunshine. The parks and green spaces, in the first blush of spring, attracted many thousands of the weary population, and there seemed to be weary population, and there seemed to be a pretty general desire to be out of doors.

The National Gallery, the National Portrait

The National Gallery, the National Portrait Gallery, the Tate Gallery and the Wallace collection at Hertford House were all opened to the public during the afternoon, and received the living words from the lips of the Master for men capable of so high an were well patronized by visitors. The affirmation of will, of such ardor in moving Easter day services at many of the churches were both elaborate and impressive, and brought together large congrega-

A melancholy interest attached to the midday celebration of holy communion at St. Paul's Cathedral, the service chosen belate Sir John Stainer. It is interesting to learn that just before he died the favorite composer completed a service for the holy communion, written in the ancient style, to be sung without accompaniment. The beauties of Sir John's works were also heard in the services at Westminster Abbey and other places of worship.

London is a somewhat less dreary place on Sunday than formerly, and some of her ancient reproach must be remitted. The morals of the people have not suffered in the slightest by the success that has attended the efforts of the National Sunday League to provide wholesome music on the Lord's day, and to keep the museums and art galleries open. No one would be foolist. enough to deny that the rendering of good fluence. The popularity of the concerts that are given every Sunday at the Queen's Hall under the direction of this organization is attested by the large audiences that regularly attend. Not only is the I all rowded, but similar concerts in different parts of London are accorded an equal

measure of success.

The bands of the Coldstream Guards and the Royal Horse Guards were included in the program at two places Easter Sunday, and at another hall "An Evening With the Poets" formed the subject of an address That the people appreciate these efforts in their behalf is fully attested by the way

in which they turn out for them.

One unvarying Easter custom in the East
End is that of the rush to get married on Easter Sunday. The overworked clergy of the East End and South of London, in addition to the many services, had to face the usual rush of those who declined to a rail themselves of Mr. Punch's advice, and i was not until after 3 o'clock that many ob tained respite from their labors. A church in the East End known as the "Red Church" is the favorite place for these marriages, and hundreds of Whitechapelers are married there every Easter. used to be free, but now the fee is seven pence half penny, while one or other o the contracting parties must reside within

During the afternoon and evening parties, headed by newly married couples, were seen proudly promenading the streets of the East End in all the glory of their unaccustomed finery.

After having talked it over for a long

time a Congregational Church in England has been bold enough to adopt an innovation from America called "a twentieth cen-tury reform." This was at Ipswich, where, on Easter Sunday, individual communion cups were used for the first time in Eng-There was a large congregation and every communicant had the comforting knowledge that he was not exposing himself to the risk of contracting consumption cancer and other diseases which medical men agree to be possible when everybody drinks from one challee. The new communion outfit consisted of 200 miniature glass tumblers with gilded tops, which were

carried to communicants on small wooden

trays by deacons, and when emptied were left in pews and collected after the service I doubt if the Church of England will ever ake up with this custom.

An Interview With Paul Kruger. With the publication of General Botha's etter appeared in the Matin one of those ponderous oer manifestoes to which this break of hostilities in South Africa. French newspaper enterprise is seen at its best in the Matin. From this point of view every one must admire the big interview, with portraits of Kruger and Fischer, which covers the front page, nor can fault be found with the choice of the interviewer. M. Henri des Houx is a remarkable example of the accomplished and educated jour-nalist who by tact and good breeding easily penetrates the most hidden sanctua-ries. He has received the confidence of princes, pope and monarci's; he is welcomed by the great ones in art science and literature; he is a lion in society. One almost wonders at his condescension in calling upon Mr. Paul Kruger. But business is business. The moment was propitious for another Matin splash, and M. Henri des Houx was evidently the man for the task. What pen more glowing! What eulogy more eloquent! What language more picturesque! "It has been given to me," he says, "to approach a good many men who of vision, such ardent faith in his mission. One must go back to the first disciples who Paul Kruger is a violent man in the sense that the apostles were violent men. \* \* I don't wish to exaggerate. but I have never been so moved as in this simple hotel bed room, face to face with

the exile."
M. Des Houx does exaggerate, all the same, for the Boer question heats his blood and he loses self-control when dealing with it. Of Mr. Kruger's remarks I say nothing; they have already been read and commented upon, but the Matin is the one French organ employed by the Boer agents in Europe when they have some thing to communicate of a semi-official character. The purpose of the article is doubtless to entice the British government to begin peace negotiations, not with Botha nor with De Wet, but with Mr. Kruger, to enable that astute personage to recover his lost prestige and to return to the Transvaal bearing "peace with honor." We somewhat forgotten the susceptibilities of this old man, whose visit to Europe has been such a cruel disappointment. Perhaps the Matin, after all,

the possibility of Mr. Kruger following in the footsteps of Aguinaldo.

middle classes, the same classes from which the women doctors emanate. The The Bishopric of Portsea.

rid of a curate, whereas one cannot get Innovation in Hospital Work.

An important departure in hospital work is, I understand, about to be introduced at the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn read, which numbers among its medical staff several women doctors. It has been decided that in future several women are to be employed as resident house surgeons and house physicians. Except in hospitals exclusively attended by female doctors, I believe there is no hospital in the kingdom where the resident house surgeons and physicians are women. These posts are usually held by young men, who take them with a view of gaining experience. It remains to be seen how the experiment will work. Friction between the resident medical staff and the nursing staffs in hospitals is not unusual. Some think the new arrangement will not be conducive to amicable working. The matrons and sisters in most hoshas done nothing more than reveal to us pitals come generally from the higher and



SPRING HAS COME. This is Franklin Park's beautiful magnolia tree, which is just now in full bloom. There weral of these trees to be seen in the parks, and they add largely to the beauty of the city.

The new bishop-suffragan of London, under Dr. Ingraham, the newly appointed bishop, is a young Scotchman, the Rev. Cosmo Gordon Lang. Since 1896 Mr. Lang has been exercising quasi-episcopal functions as vicar of Portsea. Some very curious statistics have just been published same respect. about this benefice. Nominally the living was worth about £1,000 a year, and it carried with it the patronage of half a dozen benefices and the oversight of 50,000 people. There spiritual wants were minister ed to by no fewer than fifteen curates, the total of whose stipends came to £1,570 a year, of which the parish gave £207, the remainder by the clergy fund, coming from the generosity of one individual and the grants of extra parochial bodies. Still the vicar was left with a heavy burden on his shoulders in the shape of a balance, and had only a bare £300 a year with which to maintain his position. It is little wonder that Mr. Lang now insists that the new vicar should be a man of large private means. Fortunately for himself, he is still a fellow of All Souls' College, Oxford, his fellowship having been renewed by the college for a second term of seven years, or fourteen years in all. Mr. Lang had become a great favorite with her late majes-ty Queen Victoria, and a good story is told about the queen and the new bishop-suffragan. It appears that when she began to take an interest in the then vicar's career her majesty one day asked Mr. Lang he did not get married. He replied that the fifteen curates were the obstacle. "But surely," said her majesty, "a wife would be better for you." "Yes, ma'am," said Mr. Lang, "but one can always get

#### women house surgeons and house physicians will probably be young and will take these posts for experience. In many instances the matron and sisters have held office for many years. Tradition goes for a great deal, and while they are accustomed to act on the orders of a young medical mains to be seen whether they will treat a young medical woman with the

London's Electric Trams.

The provinces have at length taught London something and we have now got in full working order our first service of electric trams. Drivers have been brought up from towns in the provinces to teach the London men their work. In this they have apparently succeeded, for the new cars run swiftly and well, and no failure any-where has been recorded. The service is worked by the United Tramways Company on several lines radiating westward from Shepherd's Bush to Hammersmith, Ealing Kew and Acton. The service is every minute and a half, and you may run two or three miles for a penny. The terminus is happily close to that of the "Twopenny Tube." Consequently, a resident, say, at Acton, which is about four miles from the Bank, by "tubing" up from the city and then "tramming" home, can do the distance for threepence in a little over half an hour. Londoners are delighted with the new serv ice, and are making use of it for holiday trips. For instance, no fewer than a hundred and fifty thousand passengers were carried on Good Friday.

The Victoria Memorial Fund. Up to the present £50,000 only has been contributed to the national Victoria memorial fund. Considering the king's encouragement of the scheme by his large subscription of £1.000, there is no denying the fact that the project is hanging fire a little. Experience shows that nearly all the big donations are exhausted within the first month of the launching of memorial projects, and already, after the lapse of near-ly a fortnight, less than a fifth of the minimum sum asked for is forthcoming. The fact is that so many subscriptions have been asked during the last year or so that people have given all they can. The committee buoys itself up, however, with the probability that the great mass of intend-ing supporters are holding back their gifts until such time as their cheques may not suffer by contrast with the heavy donations of the wealthy class. Assuming the truth of this conjecture, a constant stream of subscriptions of moderate amount should soon be set in motion, and the proceeds of the various local appeals will further swell the aggregate. The £250,000 asked for should not prove too heavy a strain upon the liberality of the nation and doubtless the sum will be made up when it is shown that a pleasing design for the memorial will be adopted. Among the pleasant and enlightening so-

cial gatherings of the London season is the conversazione of the Japan society. You meet on these occasions the Japanese minister and his charming wife, the Baroness Hayashi, who receives one most cordially. The rooms of the Royal Institute of Painters in water colors form a picturesque ka-leidoscope of all nations of men and women, and notably of the children of the There are many and varied uniforms. The Japanese naval uniform, like the British original, is seen everywhere. His ex-cellency, the Japanese minister, comes in a uniform of cloth of gold with bullion leaves, uniform of cloth of gold with bullion leaves, like the first-class English levee dress. The Baroness Hayashi, in the toilet of Bond street, might be an English lady. The study of Japanese beauty at close quarters is good. In the background are walls of pictures. The Baron Hayashi is a most genial and pleasant man. He is liked everywhere and among none more than the newspaper men, to whom he is very good.

L. H. MOORE.

A Legacy to a Horse. From the Philadelphia North American.

Bill, the old horse which Mrs. Charles Goodman drove for eighteen years prior to her death, will not get the \$3,000 which his mistress bequeathed to him in her will, but he will never miss the legacy. Judge Bland has relieved Mrs. Goodman's husband, who is executor of the estate, from performing the remarkable bequest, but only upon a promise that Bill shall be taken care of during the rest of his life. Mrs. Goodman was always a great lover of horses, and Bill was her favorite. He received much of his gentle owner's attention, and grew to expect such delicacies as fruits, celery, salads, sugar and candy on his daily bill of fare. Bill is an intelligent bay horse, twenty-two years old. Even in his old age he is seldom passed on the road.

ENGLISH HIRING FAIRS. An Old and Picturesque Custom That is Dying Out.

From the Pall Mall Gazette. Among the passing phases of country trict of Lincolnshire it is customary to hold a "statis" or statute fair as early in the year as January, the servants entering on their engagements on April 16. The Cambridgeshire hirings take place at Wisbech during September. The "mops" of the midland and western counties were held some in May, but most in the autumn. But in every one of them the sys-tem is dying out, and the hiring fair is going the way of the horse and sheep and general fairs—that is to say, it is ceasing to exist. Like a great many other old in-stitutions, it has been ruined by the cheap press. Your rustic is well aware that for a sixpenny advertisement he can at any time make known his wish for a change.
The ancient custom dies hardest among the tenacious Northmen, and I hear that the first of the March hirings was very well attended indeed. Plowmen, naturally enough, were in high spirits, the wages commanded being satisfactory to them. Sixteen shillings a week was given in cash, and of course this was in addition to

bulked largely in the north, and includ-

tage, from a thousand to fifteen hundred

yards of potatoes, and various measures of corn. Payment in kind is always tend-

ing toward disbuse, and the feeling is that hours of labor should be very definitely

fixed and remuneration be in money, the bond between master and man being only what Carlyle called "the cash nexus." is quite a new deal in agriculture. If we remember that it was the loss of mon grazing that ended the career of the once famous British yeoman and compelled so many sales in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, we may well look with suspicion upon this general crav-ing for hard cash. One would not like to see the northern rustic spoiled. In an age it is good to see that his figure is as burly. his voice as strong as ever; it is good to hear him at those hirings exclaiming with pleased surprise, the while energetically shaking hands, "It's 'ee?" You will hear t again and again with variations as you saunter down where master and man have been negotiating. "Is that 'ee, Johnny?" "Eh, Mary, hinny; surely that's no 'ee? Throughout the year they do not depend so much on cider (which is nearly always hard and of great alcoholic strength) and beer, the home-brewed four-ale varying as the southern rustic. Cider is very good drinking, but not the cider they drink-"Her be rare good zider, muster, thick and bitter," and ale not to be despised, but not the wayside home-brewed of the eastern counties. The northerner is safer with his milk all the year round, varied

by "a bit of burst" at the hirings.

The corthern peasant woman has very greatly changed in recent years. "Verdant Green" can scarcely be called an ancient work, and it seems to the writer that the bondager remained up to quite recently as she was described in that amusing volwoman, supported on legs like two stout pillars, her frock very short, showing her leggings and wooden clogs. She wore a bongrace, too; that from certain ballads in the Roxburgh collection at one time seems to have been common all over England. It was a funny-shaped bonnet, with a projection that resembled the hood of a carriage, and for short it was called an ugly. But the bondager of today, who calls herself an outworker, has departed sadly this model. Not even in the fields will she wear an ugly, and she comes to the fair with a genteel hat and a veil to it, while her hair is over her ears and curled round her eyebrows quite in the manner of a genteel shopgirl or barmaid. And this was not the worst of it. One of my correspondents, who is a most trustworthy observer of peasant life, draws attention to a silly and pernicious habit of theirs in the fol lowing words: "I am certain only a quar ter of the women looked healthy, and these were nearly all the middle-aged ones. are in the most frightfully anaemic and dyspeptic condition, and very few but had most of their teeth out. They looked more delicate than the town girls. Many of them had the most exquisite complexions imag-inable, but not of the kind we associate with good health. To get the extraordi-nary pallor and the faint pink they eat quantities of raw oatmeal, starch, rice, etc., till it is impossible for them to digest a decent meal."

Emperor William has decreed that the English language shall be taught in the high schools of Germany in place of French, which hereafter shall be optional.

Ant-Eating in the Northwest.

From the New Orleans Times-Democrat.

"Some enterprising dealer in canned goods piece of mechanical workmanship.

Two of the most elaborate and curious and proper precautions."

ing lumberman, "by going into the northwest and putting up tree ants as a condiment. No, I'm not joking," he continued "and, what's more, the product would need no introduction to the people of that region. All through the lumber districts of life, as one is reminded by the advent of Minnesota and Wisconsin ants are regarded s a great delicacy, and the only trouble i that they can't get enough of them. gaging farm servants. Its name and date don't know why it is, but men who do hard varied with the locality. In the Louth dis- manual labor in cold climates acquire strong craving for something sour, and the big, brawny choppers and teamsters found out long ago that ants were a palatable substitute for pickles. They use only a peculiar variety, large and red in color and found in immense quantities under the bark of dead trees. It is not very hard to collect a quart pail full, and, after killing them by scalding, they are spread on a board and dried in the sun. When ready to eat they look like coarse, brown powder, and have agreeable, aromatic smell. Or course, it is impossible to describe exactly how they taste, but the general flavor would remind you of some fine fruit vine-gar, and if you have any squeamishness over the nature of the dish it doesn't take you long to forget it. I can't see, however, why there should be any objection to dried ants as a table delicacy. They are perfectly clean and certainly as attractive as snails or shrimp. The first time I ever saw them eaten was at a chopping camp near Great Bend, Minn. One of the gang was a gigantic Norwegian, and at noon hour he drew out something that looked like an overgrown caviare sandwich, which he proceeded to bolt. I was surprised, but that was nothing to my amazement when I askwas nothing to my amazement when I ask-ed him what he was eating, and he calmly replied, 'ants.' Afterward I plucked up courage enough to sample them myself, and at once became a convert. The way they write the ancient admonition in the lumber

#### WHAT THE BRITISH MUST LEARN. They Must Imitate Us if They Envy Our Commercial Success.

camps is 'Go to the ant, thou sluggard-go

at dinner time.'

From the London Times. A correspondent writes: "A great deal has been recently said of the astounding success which has attended the efforts of our American friends to compete with us in the shoe industry, both in our colonial and in the home markets." He goes on to explain some of the methods pursued in the United States and to point out the difference between our system of conducting this business and theirs. Labor-saving machinery is used "for all it is worth." American manufacturers do not practice that icy feserve and mistrustful air among themselves, but rather encourage intercommunication on the subject of machinery, and freely exchange suggestions as to any improvements considered practicable. How different this policy to that persevered in by British shoe manufacturers, all of whom are fearful and suspicious of their neighbors, lest they should observe a machine

entering their respective premises.

The American workmen simply delight in mastering the intricacies of new inventions, in order that they may drive them to their fullest capacity-indeed, the men themselves are ever ready to make some slight additions which will save them a little labor or trouble. The love of ma-chinery seems ingrained in them, for they fully realize that the more they turn out the better they are paid. This accounts for the fact that American boot operatives are more highly paid than those of any other country. The lessons British manu-facturers have to learn are to abandon old methods and old machinery, to inculcate in workmen the knowledge that the utmost use of the latest machinery is vital to their (the workmen's) interest if they wish to retain their trade, and, thirdly, to encourage intercourse on all business topics touching upon the improvement of manufacturing methods, the best means to foster their export trade and the opening up of new markets recently acquired by the of new markets recently acquired by the sacrifices of so much life and money. They will then be simply following American methods, which have resulted in the immense success authoritatively proved by their official trade returns.

WONDERS IN WATCHMAKING. A Perfect Timepiece in the Top of a Pencil Case.

Among the treasures of a Swiss museum.

inserted in the top of an old-fashioned pencil case, is the tiniest watch ever constructed. It is only three-sixteenths of an inch in diameter, and its little dial not only indicate hours, minutes and seconds, but also the days of the month. So perfectly



watches which the world has ever seen belonged to Queen Elizabeth and her unfortunate contemporary, Mary, Queen of Scots. Good Queen Bess had a watch made for her in the form of a duck, with beautifully chased feathers, the lower part of which opened. The face was of silver, with an elaborate gilt design, and the whole was kept in a case of brass, covered with black leather, thickly studded with big silver

The ill-fated Mary was the possessor of a watch in the form of a skull. The dial was introduced where the palate should have been, and the works occupied the place of brains in the cranium. In the hollow of the skull, moreover, was a bell, which had works of its own, and by means of which a hammer struck out the hours

upon it.
One of the choiciest rarities of the Bernal collection was a book-shaped watch. This curious time indicator was made by order of Bogislaus XIV. Duke of Pomera-nia in the time of Gustavus Adolphus. On the face of the book, where the dial of the watch is set, there is an engraved inscrip-tion of the duke and his titles and armorial bearings, together with the date, 1627. On the back the engravings are also very fine-ly and skillfully executed, among them being the portraits of two gentlemen of the seventeenth century. The dial plate is of silver, chased in relief, while the insides are beautifully chased with figures of birds and foliage. The watch has two separate movements and a large, sweet-toned bell, At the back, over this bell, the metal is or-namentally pierced in a circle, with a dragon and other devices, while the sides pierced and engraved with a complicated design of beautiful scrollwork.

ROPE AS A FIRE ESCAPE.

New Orleans Fireman Has No Faith in It in Tall Buildings. the New Orleans Times-Democrat.

"Strange how people pin their faith to rope as a means of escape from burning buildings!" remarked an officer of the fire department. "Hundreds of traveling men carry a coil of light rope habitually in one of their trunks and feel safe on the upper floors of hotels they know are mere death traps. A drummer of my acquaintance, who weighs fully 200 pounds, and who has taken no exercise for the last twenty years, has a sample case with a special compart-ment, containing fifty yards of silk life line, extremely light and strong.

"Do you really think you could slide down on that in case of fire?" I asked him, when he showed me the arrangement. 'Why not?' he replied. 'It's been tested to three times my weight.' The only difficulty that occurred to him was the break-ing of the line. That he would have no trouble in hanging to it on the way down he took for granted.

"Now, as a matter of fact," continued the speaker "a rope is the very worst fire escape imaginable. To begin with, a moment's reflection will show you that the chances are two to one that it will catch on fire and be destroyed before it can be used. The windows of nearly all buildings are arranged in straight, vertical lines-one directly above the other-and a rope thrown out of an upper story would necessarily cross every casement on the way The probabilities are that some or all of them would be spouting flame, and the rope would last about as long as a piece of pack

"But, assuming the coast to be clear, a rope would be almost useless to anybody but a trained symnast. The average man would find it physically impossible to let himself down hand over hand, and if he attempted to slide his palms would be flayed and he would let go involuntarily before he went thirty feet. Gloves and cloth are no advantage, as we have proved by tests in the oppartment. If they are thick enough to prevent abrasion they will also prevent one from obtaining sufficient purchase to ease the descent.

'The only thing of any value in that re-

spect is a handkerchief looped loosely around the rope and then tied firmly by both ends to the wrist. The loop will bind slightly in the descent and act as a brake. That is something, by the way, that has never been in print, and it is well worth remembering. Getting a hitch or two of the rope around one's leg is of no use whatever, unless somebody has hold of the lower end and is keeping it taut. Alto-gether, the rope escape is a delusion and a snare, and I wish the fact were generally understood, because the confidence that is reposed in it makes people careless of other